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SPECIFIC POWER-CONSUMPTION NORMS IMPORTANT IN SOVIET ECONOMIC PLAN

Active preparation is now in progress on the task of examining, working out, and confirming norms for specific electric power consumption in 1951.

The norm quantity for specific electric power consumption, as established centrally by Gossnab USSR, has increased considerably over the last 2 years. The over-all scope of centralized normalization in 1949 accounted for 41%, and in 1950 for 70.6% of all power consumption for industry and transportation. It is proposed, for 1951, to expand further the range of centralized norms to include the products, equipment, and operations with high power-capacity ratings in existing industrial and transportation enterprises, and in the construction of new installations.

A 2-year experiment with industry operating on new and considerably reduced norms reveals that many enterprises are running successfully on these norms, and saving a considerable amount of electric power. Normalization in the industrial ministries has improved somewhat, but is still far from what is needed.

Some enterprises, e.g., the Ural Aluminum Plant, Verkh Iset' Metallurgical plant, Automobile Plant imeni Stalin, Nonferrous Metals Combine, Ural Railroad Car Plant, and others, have been showing a year-to-year systematic reduction in power consumption norms.

The Kharkov Tractor Plant, over the last 2 years, has reduced electric power consumption per ton of smelted steel by 17.1% by means of shortened melting periods, improved furnace charges, reduced heat losses, etc.

On the other hand, there are some enterprises which are extravagant in their consumption of electric power. These include the Venyukovskiy Equipment Plant, "Azneft'" enterprises, the Dreznensk Plant of the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ural Plant imeni Molotov, the Degtyarka Mining Administration, the Levikhin Mine, the Mine imeni III International, and others. Actual specific power consumption at these last four, which are carbide plants, runs 4,100 to 6,000 kw-hr per ton of carbide, while normal consumption at the leading carbide plants is 2,750 to 3,000 kw-hr per ton.

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Another example is that of the Saratov Railroad Car Plant where the plant leaders, through incompetent technical calculation, attempted to establish per-unit production-power consumption norms which exceeded those actually attained. For 1951, the leaders propose a norm of 2,500 kw-hr per dump car. Actual average consumption over a 4-month period in the current year was 2,466 kw-hr, and in April reached 2,080 kw-hr for a single 4-axle dump car. It is clear from the calculations that plant director Luk'yanov and chief power engineer Mel'-tser do not know the value of progressive normalization and are trying to achieve an apparent power saving by padding norms. Saratovenergo power sales inspector Avsiyevich, having approved the account without the critical examination which his position obligates him to perform, is also at fault.

Numerous examples of the irrational utilization of electrical equipment emphasize the necessity for rapid adoption of organized measures for improvement in that field.

At the Plant imeni Voykov, motors used on cutting machines vary in capacity, viz., 9.2 kw, 11 kw, and 13 kw, with the selection depending on what the plant has on hand. It has been established that 6-kw motors would be quite sufficient.

The "Komavangard" Plant of the Ministry of Light Industry is another example of irresponsible plant leadership. The plant received from a producer plant 150 spinning looms, complete with electric motors, 1.5 times the rated normal capacity. As a result, the plant's power factor dropped 0.03 below 1949 in the second quarter of 1950.

These and other instances point out that the 1951 norms must be compiled with a consideration of these and other reserves of production, not only to accomplish further power economy, but as a stimulus for widespread improvement in the operation of equipment, improvement in technological processes, and for better production organization.

Additional efforts for better utilization of production capacities, new techniques in industry and transport, further reductions in the norms for specific consumption of raw materials, equipment, fuel, heat, and electric power -- these are the responsibilities of all workers in industry, scientific research organizations, and the ministries.

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